Understanding Meanings

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This chapter, ”Reassigning Meaning,” by Simi Linton shows that the meaning of the word “disability” is rearranged and viewed differently by every person due to his or her own point of view, experience and society’s ideas. Disabled people are being labeled and that may make them seem inferior. Society does not understand the word, “disability,” as well as they think they do. There are many names for disabled people, such as handicapped and crippled. These terms assemble people in ways that makes it easier easy for the rest of the people. Not only everyday people use the word disabled, but also by professors. By differentiating the disabled and the able, there is a creation of minority group (the disabled). The meaning of the word has changed over time with the different generations. People congratulate disabled people for overcoming obstacles because they think it’s much more difficult for them. While it may be more difficult, a disabled body does not want to be applauded every time he or she does down the ramp alone. Disabled people are usually considered abnormal because they are not like everyone else. Society views disabled people with pity and always assume what they are feeling. They only look at their outer appearance and see a helpless man or a woman. This text is about how all people view the “disabled,” labeling the word “disability” to their own ideas not regarding whether it will benefit or damage the people with the disability.

Works Cited

Linton, Simi. "17." *The Disability Studies Reader*. New York: Routledge, 2010. Print.